



#7
9/28/01
PATENT APPLICATION AS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akihiko UCHIYAMA, et al.

Appln. No. 09/582,756

Group Art Unit: 1711

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: T. Boykin

Filed: June 30, 2000

For: RETARDATION FILM AND OPTICAL DEVICE EMPLOYING IT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

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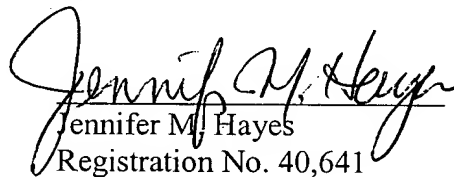
SEP 28 2001

TC 1700

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith partial translations of the Japanese language references JP 7-299828, JP 8-278410, and JP 8-190094. JP 10-68816 discloses a retardation film comprising a laminate of a $\frac{1}{4}\lambda$ plate and a $\frac{1}{2}\lambda$ plate. JP 09-189811 discloses a polarizer comprising a polarizing filtering film and a $\frac{1}{4}\lambda$ plate.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer M. Hayes
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Date: September 26, 2001



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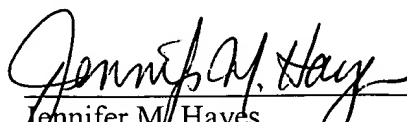
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer M. Hayes
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